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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/646,534

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David L. Stockert

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EXAMINER

STINSON, FRANKIE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1746

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

03/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/646,534

Applicant(s)

STOCKERT ET AL.

Examiner

FRANKIE L. STINSON

Art Unit

1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-17 and 20-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-17 and 20-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-11, 13, 15-17 and 20-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EPO'525 (European Patent Office 0 110 525) in view of either (European Patent Office 0 022 307) or Russia'384 (Russia 2018384).

Re claim 1, EPO'525 discloses industrial parts washer (see fig. 1) for cleaning a part, the industrial parts washer comprising:

a stand (8, 7, 6, 9) adapted to support the part;

a chamber (2);

where a stand part (9) is selectively moveable in a direction substantially parallel to the ground from a first position to a second position engaging said chamber, said stand and said chamber forming a sealed volume encapsulating the part when said stand is in said second position; and

a nozzle (14) coupled to a pressurized fluid supply, said nozzle being positioned within said chamber that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the chamber being selectively movable and the relatively movable nozzle. Nonetheless, to have the chamber movable is deemed to be of little patentable weight in that the same is considered to be a mere reversal and/or a rearrangement of parts (see MPEP 2144.04 REVERSAL, DUPLICATION OR RE-ARRANGEMENT OF PARTS). However, EPO'525 and Russia'384 are each cited disclosing the arrangement of providing a selectively

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movable chamber adapted formed a sealed volume encapsulating a part for cleaning when said chamber is in a second position as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill to modify the arrangement of EPO'525, to have the chamber moving rather than the stand, since this is considered to be a rearrangement of parts. It is old and well known to modify arrangement of various machines so that said machine is capable of being efficiently accommodated, with respect to floor space for example, in various floor plan of shops and the like. Re claim 13, EPO'525 is cited disclosing an industrial parts washing station comprising:

- a first part stand having a first frame adapted to support the part;

- a first chamber selectively moveable from a first position allowing access to said first frame to a second position to enclose said first frame;

- a first nozzle moveably positioned within said first chamber, said first nozzle selectively operable to spray cleaning fluid within said first chamber; and

- a lift assembly (1) operable to transfer the part that and being positioned between a base portion and said first chamber that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the second part stand having a second frame adapted to support the part; a second chamber selectively moveable from a first position allowing access to said second frame to a second position enclosing said second frame; a second nozzle moveably positioned within said second chamber, said second nozzle selectively operable to supply a drying agent within said second chamber; and the lifting assembly operable to transfer the part from said first frame to said second frame when said first and second chambers are in the first position, wherein said first chamber is cantilever mounted on a

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slide moveable relative to said first part stand, said slide including a base portion.

EPO'307 discloses the second stand and frame (23) as claimed. It therefore would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the second arrangement (22) in EPO'525, to include a second stand and frame as taught by EPO'307, for the purpose of through drying the part. Re claim 21, EPO'525 discloses an industrial parts washer for removing debris from a machined part, the industrial parts washer comprising:

a structure (8, 7, 6, 9) adapted to support the part in a cantilevered manner; a horizontal slidable stand selectively moveable between a first position clear of the part and a second position where said stand positions the part in a chamber (2) that substantially encloses the part; and

a nozzle (14) positioned within said chamber, said nozzle being coupled to a pressurized fluid source for washing the part that differs from the claim only in the recitation of the chamber being movable versus the stand. Russia'384 and EPO'307 are therefore cited as applied to the subject matter of claims 1 and 13 above. Re claims 2 and 4, EPO'525 discloses the pair of support portions (5, see fig. 3). Re claim 3, EPO'525 discloses the lift (1). Re claim 5, EPO'307 discloses the slide. Re claims 6, 7 and 9, Russia'384 discloses the nozzle guide. Re claim 8, to have the chamber cylindrical if is little patentable weight in view of the corresponding structure in EPO'525, Russia'384 and EPO'307. Re claim 11, EPO'307 discloses the filter (20). Re claim 12, EPO'525 discloses the exhaust system (page 6 lines 11-12). Re claim 15, to provide a plurality of nozzle rings is deemed to be an obvious extension of the teachings of

EPO'525 as proposedly modified (see MPEP 2144.04 REVERSAL, DUPLICATION OR RE-ARRANGEMENT OF PARTS). Re claims 16-17 and 20, EPO'307 discloses the identical chambers and drying air. Re claims 22 and 23, EPO'525 discloses the hub. Re claim 24, EPO'307 is cited as applied above. Re claims 25 and 26, Russia'384 is cited teaching the nozzle ring(s) as applied above. Re claim 27 EPO'525 discloses the exhaust.

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. In Ousterling EPO'861, Marshall et al., Michel et al., note the chambers.

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to the pending claims have been considered, but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FRANKIE L. STINSON whose telephone number is (571) 272-1308. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and some Saturdays from approximately 5:30 am to 11:30 am.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr, can be reached on (571) 272-1700. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

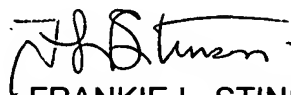
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

fls



FRANKIE L. STINSON
Primary Examiner
GROUP ART UNIT 1746